

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SCS-03 H-01 SY-04 RSC-01 SSO-00

INR-07 CIAE-00 /025 W
----- 113089

R 311445Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6904

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC MA (REPPAS, GEORGE S)
SUBJECT: W/W GEORGE REPPAS

REF: TANANARIVE 0143

1. REPPAS LAWYER LEBEL CALLED EMBASSY JAN 31 TO STATE THAT SUPREME COURT PROCEEDINGS ON REPPAS' APPEAL WOULD BEGIN FEB 4 WITH APPEARANCE BY REPPAS.
2. DURING WEEKLY PRISON VISIT BY EMBOFF JAN 30 REPPAS PREOCCUPIED BY CONCERN OVER PERSONAL SAFETY BECAUSE OF CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION:

(A) ALLEGED THAT GROUPE MOBILE DE LA POLICE (WHOSE CAMP NEXT TO PRISON AND WHO ARE INVOLVED IN CURRENT POLITICAL CONFLICT WITH HEAD OF GOVT RAMANANTSOA -- SEE TANANARIVE 0193) HAS MADE CONTINGENCY PLANS TO TAKE PRISONERS AS HOSTAGES (INCLUDING, REPPAS FEARS, HIMSELF AND OTHER EUROPEANS) IF THEY BESIEGED BY FRIENDLY FORCES. REPPAS ALSO EXPRESSED FEAR BACOPOULOS MAY TAKE ADVANTAGE CONFUSION TO KILL HIM. REQUESTED EMBASSY ASK GOMR ALLOW HIM TAKE REFUGE IN EMBASSY HOUSE DURING PRESENT CRISIS.
(COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES REPPAS TRYING BUILD CASE WHICH WILL SATISFY CONDITIONS FOR ASYLUM -- STATE 12348 AND REFTEL. WE THINK CONFLICT BETWEEN GOMR AND ARMED POLICE LIKELY BE RESOLVED WITHOUT RESORT TO VIOLENCE.)

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(B) REPPAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT PLANS FOR HIS EVACUATION
SHOULD IT BE NECESSARY FOR AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO LEAVE
TANANARIVE. IF EVACUATION IS IN ORDER, REPPAS BELIEVES
MSG DETACHMENT SHOULD BE USED TO SECURE HIS RELEASE.
(COMMENT: EMBASSY PLANS TELL HIM THAT, SHOULD EVACUATION
BE MADE DCM WOULD PERSONALLY BE CONCERNED WITH HIS WELFARE
AND WOULD REQUEST HIS RELEASE BY GOMR.)

3. REPPAS HAS SENT LETTER TO AMBASSADOR (COPY BEING POUCHED
AF/E) ASKING THAT EMBASSY GIVE GENERAL RAMANTSOA,
MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND OTHERS COPIES OF "INVESTOR'S CLAIM
THAT IS TO BE FILED WITH FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION
OF U.S." (SEE STATE 15752). PURPOSE WOULD BE TO
DISCREDIT PROCUREUR GENERAL RAMANITRA AND INDUCE NEW GOMR
REMOVE HIM FROM OFFICE BECAUSE OF "MASSIVE CONFLICT OF
INTEREST" BETWEEN HIS FAMILY AND AGM INVESTMENT. (COMMENT:
UNLESS DEPT OBJECTS, EMBASSY PROPOSES TO INFORM REPPAS THAT
IT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR AMBASSADOR TO TAKE
REQUESTED ACTION. IT IS DECISION FOR INVESTORS WHETHER
THEY WISH DO SO.)

MENDENHALL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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